Listing of the Claims

1.   (Currently Amended) A computerized method for monitoring for a user the price activities of a financial instrument traded in a financial instrument traded in a financial market in a given timeframe, comprising the steps of:

(a)   plotting a plurality of bars on a price-time chart by a processor wherein said price-time chart is a two dimensional chart, with the Y-coordinate representing price and X-coordinate representing time, with the X-axis divided into a predetermined plurality of discrete intervals, <u>wherein</u> each interval has a bar of the plurality of bars associated with it, each interval represents an amount of time equal to that of the given timeframe, each bar indicates at least a high price and a low price traded by the market during the associated time interval of the bar and each bar is vertically displayed on said chart;

(b)   employing a̶ ̶b̶a̶r̶ with the processor <u>a bar</u> from said chart and building a frequency distribution with the processor wherein an interval between a high and low price of said bar is divided into a plurality of discrete predetermined price intervals and said frequency distribution identifies the amount of trading activities taken place in each of the said discrete price intervals within the period of time represented by said bar;

(c)   deriving <u>with the processor</u> a set of discrete intra-market elements from said frequency distribution w̶i̶t̶h̶ ̶t̶h̶e̶ ̶p̶r̶o̶c̶e̶s̶s̶o̶r̶, said set of discrete intra-market elements comprising a̶t̶ ̶l̶e̶a̶s̶t̶ ̶o̶n̶e̶ ̶o̶f̶ <u>an active range defined by</u> a continuous price range containing substantially high trading activities ̶a̶c̶t̶i̶v̶e̶

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~~range~~ determined by a first statistical range extending from a statistical center calculated from said frequency distribution, a modal point defined by the highest trading activities for a price in the time interval ~~modal point~~, and an extreme tail defined by a continuous price range containing substantially low trading activities determined by a second statistical range beyond said first range ~~extreme tail~~;

(d) representing on a computer display device each element of said set of intra-market elements by a first geometric figure, and overlaying said first geometric figure onto said bar; and

(e) displaying on a computer display device the overlaid price-time chart to the user.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said trading activities defined on a price interval is the total volume traded within the price interval throughout the period of time represented by said bar.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said trading activities defined on a price interval are the number of predetermined constant time units the market trades at least once within the said price interval throughout the time period represented by said bar, and wherein each said predetermined constant time unit represents a time interval substantially smaller than the time interval represented by said bar.

4.   (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 1, wherein said price-time chart is a bar chart.

5.   (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 1, wherein said price-time chart is a Japanese candlestick chart.

6.   (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 1, wherein the price chart is a bar chart without at least one of the open and close price displayed.

7.   (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

graphically representing on a computer display device a price interval with the highest trading activities by a dot, said dot having a diameter substantially smaller than the physical length of a time interval on the X-axis of said price-time chart, said dot having a center collinear with the high and low price of said bar, and the said dot having a Y-coordinate centered on the mid-point of said price interval.

8.   (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 1, wherein said continuous price range with substantially low trading activities is a continuous price range with the top end being the high price of said bar, said continuous price range encompasses a set of price intervals on the frequency distribution diagram, and each price interval of said set of price intervals contains trading activities below a

predetermined amount; and the step of representing each element further comprises:

graphically representing on a computer display device said continuous price range on said bar by a second geometric figure.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein said second geometric figure is a vertical line with a predefined width and color connecting the high and low of said price range, said vertical line is overlaid on an imaginary line joining the high and low price of said bar.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said continuous price range with substantially low trading activities is a continuous price range with the bottom end of the range being the low price of the bar, said continuous price range encompasses a set of price intervals on the frequency distribution diagram, and each price interval of said set of price intervals contains trading activities below a predetermined amount;

and the step of representing each element further comprises:

graphically representing on a computer display device said continuous price range with substantially low trading activities on said bar by a third geometric figure.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein said third geometric figure is a vertical line with predetermined width and color connecting

the high and low price of said price range, and said vertical line is overlaid on an imaginary line joining the high and low price of said bar.

12.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

graphically representing on a computer display device at least one continuous price range with substantially high trading activities by a fourth geometric figure and overlaying said fourth geometric figure onto said bar, said fourth geometric figure being a rectangle with a predetermined width and length, said rectangle has vertices with Y-coordinates enclosing said continuous price range with substantially high trading activities, and said rectangle has the center collinear with the high and low price of said bar.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12, further comprising a coloring scheme wherein said rectangle is hollow if a close price is higher than an open price indicated by said bar, and is filled if the close price is lower than the open price of said bar.

14.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12, wherein said price-time chart is a Japanese Candlestick Chart and said rectangle has an identical width with a body of said bar, and said rectangle contains a pattern to distinguish it from the body of said bar.

15.   (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein said pattern is a slanted stripe pattern.

16.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said continuous price range containing substantially high trading activities is derived by steps comprising:

(a)   calculating by a processor a mean price X of the price distribution from said frequency distribution;

(b)   calculating by a processor a standard deviation price Y of the price distribution from said frequency distribution; and

(c)   defining with a processor said continuous price range to be the value X ± (Y) (b), wherein b is a predetermined constant.

17.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said continuous price range containing substantially high trading activities is derived by steps comprising:

fetching a predetermined constant, summing the trading activities in the frequency distribution to arrive at a total amount, multiplying said predetermined constant by the said total amount of trading activities, and denoting the result; and

wherein said continuous price range containing substantial trading activities is the narrowest price range in the frequency distribution which contains total trading activities larger than the result.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said continuous price range containing substantially high trading activities includes a set of discrete price intervals which comprises at least one price interval and said set of discrete price intervals containing average trading activities greater than a predetermined amount.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said continuous price range containing substantially high trading activities includes a set of discrete price intervals which comprises at least one price interval, each price interval inside said set of discrete price intervals contains trading activities greater than a predetermined amount.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of taking a bar from the chart further comprises:

taking each of the bars from the said chart, and determining frequency distribution for each bar;

and the step of deriving a set of discrete intra-market elements further comprises:

for each of the bars, deriving set of intra-market elements from the corresponding frequency distribution, said set of intra-market elements comprise at least one intra-market element;

and the step of representing each element further comprises:

graphically representing on a computer display device each intra-market element of said set of intra-market elements by a fifth geometric figure and overlaying said fifth geometric figure onto the bar.

21.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said frequency distribution diagram is built internally by a computer while the price-time chart with the overlaid intra-market elements is displayed on a computer display device to the user.

22.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

allowing the user to select the set of intra-market elements of be overlaid on said price-time chart.

23.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

allowing the user to define the geometric figure used to represent an intra-market element.

Claims 24-42 (Canceled)